

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

By *Benoît Castel*  
Benoît Castel  
Attorney for Applicants  
Customer No. 000466  
Registration No. 35,041  
745 South 23rd Street  
Arlington, VA 22202  
Telephone: 703/521-2297

March 26, 2001

09/07/00 060001

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

3. A composition according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the mean sieve diameter of the carrier particles is less than 750  $\mu\text{m}$ , preferably then from 100 to 600  $\mu\text{m}$ .

4. A composition according to ~~any one of claims 1-4~~ claim 1, wherein the carrier particles comprise a brittle material which will fragmentize easily when compressed.

5. A composition according to ~~any one of claims 1-4~~ claim 1, wherein the carrier particles contain from 0.1 to 25 weight percent of the bio/mucoadhesion promoting agent, preferably then from 1 to 13 weight percent, based on the total composition.

8. A composition according to ~~any one of claims 1-7~~ claim 1, further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable surfactant in a finely dispersed form and intimately mixed with the active agent or agents.

10. A composition according to claim 8 ~~or 9~~, wherein the surfactant is selected from the group consisting of sodium lauryl sulfate polysorbates, bile acid salts and mixtures thereof.

11. A composition according to ~~any one of claims 1-10~~ claim 1, wherein the carrier particles comprise a water-soluble, pharmaceutically acceptable carbohydrate and/or an inorganic salt.

13. A composition according to ~~any one claims 1-12~~ claim 1, wherein the carrier particles contain at least one pharmaceutical disintegrating agent promoting the dispersion of the microparticles of the active agent or agents over the sublingual mucosa.

15. A composition according to claim 13 ~~or 14~~, wherein the disintegrating agent is present in an amount from 1 to 10 weight percent of the composition.

16. A composition according to ~~any one of claims 1-15~~ claim 1, wherein the pharmaceutically active agent is fentanyl or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

17. A composition according to ~~any one of claims 1-16~~ claim 1, for the treatment of acute disorders by sublingual administration.